

Current operations delay AEF rotations

By Gen. William Begert
PACAF commander

HICKAM AIR FORCE BASE, Hawaii — It’s hard to believe that it has been more than a month since so many innocent people lost their lives in the unprovoked terrorist attacks of Sept. 11.

These horrific acts still play in many of our minds as if they happened yesterday, but we take comfort in the fact that we have not sat idly by and have brought the full measure of America’s military might into hunting down those responsible for these crimes, and putting an end to worldwide terrorism.

As a result of the intense level of effort required to support operations NOBLE EAGLE and ENDURING FREEDOM, we have impacted our established Air Expeditionary Force deployment plans.

A large portion of our people assigned to support AEFs 7 and 8 are currently deployed.

Additionally, some assets aligned against AEFs 9 and 10 have been tasked to deploy and in a very limited number of cases we have deployed people aligned against AEFs 1, 2 and beyond.

As the Air Force weighs its options for future action, it is imperative that we all understand that there may be a delay in rotating our deployed forces as currently scheduled under the established AEF rotation plan.

The mission, theater commander requirements, and airlift constraints are all contributing factors to possibly extending those currently deployed. As we work our way through the plans to fight this new war on terrorism, our planners are carefully reviewing our options for future rotations. Once these final decisions have been made we will relay that information to you as expeditiously as possible.

I fully understand the sacrifices made by the families of our deployed airmen and I hope to deploy none of our forces more than absolutely necessary. But, we all need to keep in mind that the war on terrorism will require sacrifice from everyone in the total force—we are one team, one family, and we will share the burden across the Air Force.

We will adhere to the AEF construct as much as possible and make every effort to return to our planned AEF schedule at the earliest possible time, but I ask each of you, active duty, reserve, guard, and most importantly our families, for your patience and support.

The future safety of America will forever be unsure if we don’t make the necessary sacrifices now.

Wolf Pack team helps local police

By Staff Sgt. Heather Shelton
8th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Personnel from the 8th Civil Engineer Squadron readiness flight, 8th Medical Operations Squadron bioenvironmental flight and 8th CES fire department, joined the Kunsan City Police to help identify two unknown substances downtown Oct. 26.

“I am extremely impressed with the professionalism and dedication our team showed to ensure our Korean partners safety,” said Capt. Patrick Obruba, 8th CES readiness flight commander.

According to the Senior Master Sgt. Brian Bridgeford, 8th CES fire department chief, people need to understand that responding to these types of emergencies may take some time.

“Hazardous materials incidents take time because there are several steps that must be taken to ensure all responders are protected,” said Bridgeford.

Although there are no specifics on what the white powder was, the team's detection results came up negative for Anthrax. However, Wolf Pack members are reminded to stay vigilant.

“Report any suspicious packages, substances or individuals,” said Obruba. “Dial 911 and provide as much information as possible about the nature of the potential emergency.”

Once again, teamwork proves to be one of the Wolf Pack’s many strengths.

“Friday’s off-base response proves that the Red Devil team is ready and able to handle any biological attack against the Wolf Pack,” said Obruba.

Influenza vaccine program schedule

Monday 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. at the clinic for 8th MDG, 8th OSS, 8th LSS, 35th FS, and 80th FS, newcomers.
Tuesday 8 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. at the base theater for 8th SFS and OSI.
Wednesday 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. at 8th CES for 8th CES.
Thursday 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. at the Loring Club for base newcomers and the clinic for all previous squadrons.
Nov. 9 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. at the clinic for 8th SUPS and 8th TRANS.
Nov. 13 8 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. at the base theater for 8th MXS and 8th SVS.
Nov. 14 10:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. at the base theater for 8th COM, 8th MSS and 8th CPTF
Nov. 15 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. at the Loring Club for all newcomers and the clinic for all previous squadrons.
Nov. 16 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. at the Loring Club all Army personnel, DOD civilians and dependents, and all previous squadrons.
Nov. 19 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. at the clinic for DOD civilians and dependents and all previous squadrons.
Nov. 20 8 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. at the base theater for all DOD civilians and dependents, and all previous squadrons.
Nov. 21 10:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. at the base theater. Last day for everyone.

U.S. Commando Solo II takes over Afghan airwaves

By Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — After years of Taliban propaganda, the Afghan people are hearing another voice.

At any time of the day or night, an Air Force Special Operations Command EC-130E Commando Solo II is in the area of operations, broadcasting news and information to the Afghan people.

The aircraft and crews fly a variety of missions. In Afghanistan, they are broadcasting music, news and information in the various languages of the country. These are radio broadcasts only.

The planes, which are based at Harrisburg International Airport, Pa., are part of the 193rd Special Operations Wing of the Pennsylvania Air National Guard.

Army specialists in the language and customs of the area prepare the broadcasts.

The capability allows U.S. Central Command planners to warn the Afghan population to stay away from Taliban and Al Qaeda targets.

The broadcasts stress that the coalition campaign is not aimed at the Afghan people, but at the terrorists and their Taliban supporters.

“We have no wish to hurt you, the innocent people of Afghanistan,” reads one English translation of a broadcast. “Stay away from military installations, government buildings, terrorist camps, roads, factories or bridges.”

Another broadcast told the people of Afghanistan why the United States is attacking the Taliban and Al Qaeda.

“On Sept. 11, 2001, thousands of people

were killed en masse in the United States,” it reads.

“Among them was a 2-year-old girl. Barely able to stand or dress herself. Did she deserve to die? Why was she killed you ask? Was she a thief? What crime had she committed? She was merely on a trip with her family to visit her grandparents. Policemen, firefighters, teachers, doctors, mothers, father, sisters, brothers all killed. Why?”

The broadcast went on to explain that the attacks in New York and the Pentagon were on innocent people — an act forbidden by the Muslim Koran.

“(The terrorists) believe they are heroes, Ghazi warriors triumphing over the evil of the West,” the broadcast continues. “However, the truth is they are murderers and do not represent Islam.”

Ghazi warriors are Muslim heroes

from the early days of the religion.

Ham radio operators can listen to the broadcast at 8700 kilohertz, said 1st Lt. Edward Shank, a spokesman for the squadron.

The squadron has participated in operations in Panama, Bosnia, Kosovo and during the Gulf War. Their aircraft have been modified to not only handle radio, but television broadcasts. They can broadcast via tape or live.

“If needed, we have the capability to take a speech by the President of the United States and beam it live via satellite to the aircraft, which then would broadcast it,” Shank said.

The name “Commando Solo II” also has meaning. Commando refers to the special operations mission, and Solo refers to the fact that the aircraft can go it alone, Shank said.



Staff Sgt.
Rodolfo Borrego Jr.



Pride of the Pack

Job: Financial accountant, 8th Comptroller Flight
Hometown: San Antonio, Texas
Follow-on: Kirtland AFB, N.M.
Hobbies: Sports and reading

Nominees are selected for outstanding service and dedication to their unit. To nominate an individual, contact the member’s group commander.

Kunsan Air Base upcoming courts-martial schedule



8 a.m. Nov. 26
8 a.m. Nov. 29



Courts-martial will be held in Bldg. 755, 3rd Floor. They are open to the public. For more information, call 782-4283.